

RADIO-TV PART DEFENSE DIALOG II

SUMMARIES ARE
NOT TO BE QUOTED

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1972 (BROADCASTS OF SEPT 8)

RADIO TV REPORTS, INC.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SUMMARY OF NETWORK NEWS IN THIS ISSUE

DAN RATHER, CBS-TV, Ted KOPPEL, ABC-TV, and Richard VALERIANI, NBC-TV, all report on the mix up over Jimmy HOFFA's planned trip to Hanoi to discuss unions and talk with US prisoners of war. The White House now admits it knew about the arrangements and assisted HOFFA in making them but apparently was not in close touch with Secretary of State ROGERS who voided HOFFA's passport which meant he could not leave the country. HOFFA is interviewed on the CBS Morning News where he talks about the plans and how he got the invitation to go to Hanoi.

WALTER CRONKITE, CBS-TV, Howard SMITH, ABC-TV, and John CHANCELLOR, NBC-TV, all report on the looting going on in Phnom Penh by soldiers and civilians. The incident was sparked by high prices for food and the shortage of it.

WALTER CRONKITE, CBS-TV, and John CHANCELLOR, NBC-TV, both report the Pentagon admitted that the mining of NVN's harbors has been effective - the only ship hit by an explosion thus far has been the USS Warrington. The ship may be retired as opposed to being repaired because of the extent of the damage.

JOHN CHANCELLOR, NBC-TV, reports the SVNese general who is defending Saigon expects much small trouble from the enemy around the Saigon area but no major incidents before the US elections in November.

FRANK BOURGHOLTZER, NBC-TV, reports on the Navy's attempt to clear the Island of San Clemente off the California coast of cats, goats and pigs that have gone wild and risen in tremendous numbers on the island.

JOHN K. JESSUP, CBS-TV, comments on the use of the people sniffer in NATO troop exercises, questioning how distinctions are to be made between different nationalities.

PART II

CBS EVENING NEWS CBS-TV 7:00 PM
SEPT 8

Administration Mixed Up Over Hoffa

WALTER CRONKITE: The NIXON Administration seems to be in the position of the right hand not knowing what the left hand is doing in connection with the James HOFFA proposed trip to Hanoi.

The first official confirmation that the convicted ex-teamster leader, still on parole, planned to go to negotiate for the release of American POW's came yesterday from the White House in response to questions about a newspaper report.

But that set in motion a confusing chain of events which wound up with HOFFA's passport authorization being cancelled.

He himself still hoping to make the trip - and a maze of contradictory statements about the situation.

DAN RATHER: Speaking for the President, White House news secretary Ronald ZIEGLER yesterday said no one at the White House had been informed of a planned trip to Hanoi by HOFFA.

Today, ZIEGLER admitted that the President has known of such plans at least since July when one of Mr. NIXON's top aides, General Hal HAIG talked by telephone personally with HOFFA.

Another, Dr. Henry KISSINGER consulted in person with two of HOFFA's representatives.

In addition, Attorney General Richard KLEINDIEST sent one of his top aides to consult personally with two of HOFFA's men.

The President tonight came out of the White House for a visit to his campaign offices across the street. He refused to answer any questions about HOFFA or anything else.

But his aides insist that the White House had nothing to do with HOFFA getting permission to go to Hanoi from the parole board or low level State Department officials.

Justice and State Department sources, while offering no proof, question this.

KISSINGER now acknowledges that he personally mentioned HOFFA's trip to NVN's chief Paris negotiator THO. KISSINGER claims that he told the NVNese and HOFFA that

HOFFA would have to travel as strictly an individual citizen.

The White House claims that at no time was HOFFA encouraged, but it does not flatly say that he was ever discouraged.

The White House does flatly deny that teamster union support, financial and otherwise, for Mr. NIXON's reelection campaign had anything to do with the case.

Secretary of State ROGERS, the man who literally vetoed HOFFA's trip in the last hours before HOFFA was to leave is reported to be, quote, furious. Furious that the President and KISSINGER kept the story from him and that they would under any circumstances allow a convicted felon to negotiate for the release of war prisoners.

ROGERS is said to be especially angry over the fact that he was prevailed upon to criticize former Attorney General Ramsey CLARK's recent trip to Hanoi at a time when KISSINGER and the President were not stopping a similar trip by HOFFA.

CRONKITE: William TAW the HOFFA attorney who took part in the July meeting with KISSINGER called absolutely untrue White House news secretary ZIEGLER's statement that KISSINGER gave no encouragement for the trip.

On the contrary, TAW told CBS News, certain things were done by Dr. KISSINGER to start the ball rolling to make it possible for Mr. HOFFA to go to Hanoi.

Futhermore, TAW added, HOFFA's departure yesterday was cancelled after he got a telephone call from the NVNese in Paris adding complications.

TAW declined to discuss these complications but he said that he hopes to clarify them on a trip to Paris this weekend.

Serious Food Shortage In Cambodia

CRONKITE: There is a serious food shortage in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, and a lot of trouble.

Communist forces have cut the main rice road into the city and in two months the price of rice has tripled.

Today, thousands of Cambodians pilaged stores, market places and

PART II

warehouses.

Among them were hundreds of Cambodian soldiers and police were hesitant to try to stop them.

Sporadic shooting broke out and at last report, one merchant was dead.

US Mining Bags Ships

CROWKITE: America's four month old mine blockade of NVNese ports has apparently bagged a ship.

An American destroyer.

That is the word now from the Pentagon.

Officials revealed today that the USS Warrington damaged by two underwater explosions July 17 apparently was hit by a stray mine.

The ship was twenty miles off NVN when it was damaged - well outside the mined area.

Only one seaman was hurt but the Warrington was so badly damaged the Navy says she may be scrapped, instead of repaired.

ABC EVENING NEWS ABC-TV 7:00 PM
SEPT 8

Food Shortage In Phnom Penh

HOWARD SMITH: In Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, food shortages have developed and prices have gone way up.

Today, thousands of soldiers and civilians broke into warehouses, markets and shops and took what they wanted while police looked on.

One police officer said, there are too many soldiers - we can't do anything.

More Details On Hoffa's Planned Trip To NVN

SMITH: More details emerged today concerning that trip that Jimmy HOFFA expected to make to Hanoi in an effort to win release of American prisoners but there were differing explanations of who said what to whom.

TED KOPPEL: All parties seem to agree on one point - Jimmy HOFFA's attorney William TAW and teamsters official Harold GIBBINS did meet with Dr. Henry KISSINGER early

in July in San Clemente. KISSINGER requested that the HOFFA group not travel to NVN before July 20 since he, KISSINGER, was meeting in Paris with THO on or about July 18.

When he got to Paris, KISSINGER in fact, delivered a message to THO referring to the HOFFA mission and pointing out that HOFFA and his colleagues would be acting in a private capacity and that they did not represent the US government.

HOFFA's attorney, Mr. TAW adds, that KISSINGER tried to assist them in every way and that during the San Clemente meeting, Dr. KISSINGER left the room several times to talk with President NIXON.

On one occasion, he picked up the phone and spoke to the President.

As an ex-convict on parole, HOFFA applied to the Justice Department for permission to visit NVN. The Justice Department approved the trip and cleared it with two high State Department officials.

Secretary of State ROGERS, however, only found out about the planned HOFFA trip late yesterday afternoon when this letter from HOFFA's attorney outlining details was hand delivered by a carrier from the Justice Department.

That's when ROGERS reportedly hit the roof, demanded an inquiry and then ordered HOFFA's passport invalidated for travel to NVN.

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS NBC-TV 7:00 PM
SEPT 8

More Trouble Expected Near Saigon

JOHN CHANCELLOR: In the VN war, the SVNese general who is defending Saigon says he expects much small trouble from the enemy in the weeks before the American presidential election, but nothing beyond small attacks.

There was more sharp fighting today in Quang Tri City and around Tien Twoc, a district town near Danang.

Serious Looting In Cambodia

CHANCELLOR: In Cambodia, there was serious looting today by Cam-

PART II

bodia soldiers because the price of rice has risen enormously.

Mobs of soldiers went on a rampage in Phnom Penh, taking everything from furniture to food and burning down the stalls of Chinese merchants.

TOM STREITHORST: More than fifty armored personnel carriers and three battalions of SVNese rangers have launched a new thrust into Cambodia.

The units moved early this month from the Cambodian parrot's beak and are now pushing north against the first NVNese division which is trying to infiltrate into the Mekong Delta.

It has rained steadily for forty eight hours as a result of a nearby typhoon.

The attack had to be launched without artillery support or air strikes.

The rangers have made contact with the enemy at virtually every one of their programmed target areas. The fighting was close in.

Here a medic raced in to pull out a wounded ranger. The two (word unintelligible) companies operating here lost three killed and four wounded in a couple of hours.

The hostile force was well armed and dug in. It had to be blasted out.

Later, two NVNese bodies were found chained to their anti-aircraft weapon. It is not known if the soldiers chained themselves as an act of heroism or if their commanders did it to prevent them from leaving their weapons.

Whichever the case, the rangers clearly face a determined enemy.

Cambodia is supposed to be easy terrain for the mechanized units of the SVNese army to operate in. This typhoon hasn't made it any easier, nor has the first NVNese division.

Nevertheless, the fighting is expected to go on here for several more days.

US Mines Own Ship In NVNese Waters

CHANCELLOR: On July 17, explosions badly damaged the American destroyer Warrington off the coast of NVN.

The Pentagon said today that the

destroyer was probably damaged by an American mine - the first and possibly the only vessel damaged by the mine blockade.

More On Hoffa's Proposed Trip To NVN

CHANCELLOR: There is more today on the strange case of Jimmy HOFFA, the paroled labor leader who was on his way to NVN and who then suddenly and mysteriously changed his mind.

It turns out the White House knew all along he was going.

RICHARD VALERIANI: The White House, which yesterday disclaimed any knowledge of HOFFA's proposed trip to Hanoi, confessed today that presidential advisor Henry KISSINGER had discussed it with two agents for HOFFA in San Clemente in July.

KISSINGER was said to have made it clear to HOFFA's men that the Administration preferred to do its own negotiating with Hanoi and if HOFFA wanted to go, he would have to proceed on his.

News secretary Ron ZIEGLER, apparently trying to keep the President dissociated with this bazaar affair, said he presumed KISSINGER had told Mr. NIXON about it.

KISSINGER also informed the chief NVNese negotiator, THO, of HOFFA's intent.

Supposedly to let him know that HOFFA would not be acting in any official capacity.

But the White House indicated that KISSINGER did not inform the American Secretary of State, nor the State Department which didn't know about the trip until yesterday.

ZIEGLER was asked today if anybody in the White House had contacted HOFFA, either directly or indirectly to persuade him not to make the trip.

ZIEGLER replied, not that I'm aware of.

But since ZIEGLER was not aware of the original White House contact, his answer left open the possibility that somebody in the White House did get to HOFFA to dissuade him from making the trip.

CHANCELLOR: The theory that the White House called off the HOFFA visit at the last minute is based

PART II

in part on the fact that the Administration has been highly and politically critical of Democrats who had dealings with the NVNese.

How might it have looked the theory goes, if a man paroled by the President, who supports him politically, turned up in Hanoi.

Navy Involved In Wild Animals

CHANCELLOR: We spend most of our time in this business reporting on the big problems the US government has, like inflation, VN, but the government has small problems too.

Such as what to do about the pigs, goats and cats that run wild on San Clemente Island, sixty miles off the California coast.

FRANK BOURGHOLTZER: San Clemente Island rises steeply out of the Pacific Ocean off the California coast.

A nearly bald lump of rock where over the years domestic animals have gone wild. Cats, pigs and especially goats.

The vegetation of the island is very sparse, not much good for anything but goats.

But in this age of ecological responsibility, the US Navy has become gravely concerned.

The Navy runs the island. Under seas research and what not. And it has decided that the pigs and goats are destroying the delicate balance of San Clemente's nature.

By eating it bare.

Depopulation has been decreed and to accomplish it, the Navy has hired the man who use to run the island as a ranch, Mr. GRUMBLES (?).

I asked him why not shoot the goats.

MR. GRUMBLES: It doesn't work. It - you start shooting and they go in the caves and there are hundreds of caves, crevices and they just hide out.

They - as long as you are out here, you can't do anything.

They - the Navy tried about six or seven years ago and I don't know how long they had the hunters here but they didn't get over a hundred goats in all the time they were working.

Mr. GRUMBLES estimates there are eight to fifteen thousand goats

here. He will trap them. Sell the old goats, and train the babies to become friendly to man and to eat the grass only where the Navy decides it is ecologically proper.

As for the thousand or so wild pigs, they are a total disaster. Wandering through the compound as if they owned it.

But Mr. GRUMBLES thinks catching them will be easy. Offer them a little garbage he says, and they will come right to you.

CBS MORNING NEWS CBS-TV 7:00 AM
SEPT 8

Hoffa Talks About Hanoi Trip

(HOFFA is interviewed in Detroit)...

HOFFA: I have here the communications from the trade unions and the representatives of Hanoi giving me a personal invitation to come to Hanoi and stay there for one week to discuss problems concerning trade unions and also to discuss the war situation and to meet with war prisoners.

REPORTER: Now, you had heard of a release upcoming from Hanoi of some American war prisoners.

HOFFA: Well, we had been discussing my visit a long time prior to the discussion concerning the three pilots that are being released now.

REPORTER: Why do you think the State Department would suddenly short stop this effort on your part?

HOFFA: I cannot understand why after giving me the permission to my parole officer, the passport department, approval of the Justice Department, why all at once there would be a stoppage and a revocation of my passport to go to Hanoi when the worst that could happen and the best that could happen would be that if I made the trip at my own expense, and cost me around some twelve thousand dollars for the three people to go, that I would have been able to bring back some prisoners and the worst that could happen would have been a visit to where I could realistically without looking at

the political end of it report what I had seen.

REPORTER: Was Hanoi a little bit nervous about premature word being leaked out on the visit?

HOFFA: Yes, there had been an agreement that there would be no singular (?) release from either side.

And the reason that we kept it very quiet was because the press release was to be made on when we arrived in Paris and the second release when we arrived at Hanoi.

Unfortunately when this was released, my representative talked to Paris six o'clock this morning and they had indications that there was going to be a public release singular from us.

And that offset and upset the meeting that we were going to have in Hanoi.

My representative is going back to Paris over the weekend, talk with the Hanoi representative and the trade unionist, try to rearrange the visit providing the State Department clears a passport for me to go to Hanoi, otherwise I can't go.

REPORTER: So the deal is not off yet?

HOFFA: Well, it is only off in my opinion if the State Department does not give me a passport to go to Hanoi.

REPORTER: Would you recommend someone to go in your stead perhaps?

HOFFA: No, I was distinctly told that the invitation was for the three people so stated in the wire (word unintelligible) for having come there as visitors and I would not usurp their authority by me substituting somebody for myself.

I would not do that.

REPORTER: And you were the only one who was invited by Hanoi?

HOFFA: No, there were three of us.

REPORTER: Who were the others?

HOFFA: I don't care to divulge their names and they have a lot of publicity attached to it.

There were two others, one a trade unionist and myself and a representative who had been representing me in the discussions of my visit to Hanoi.

REPORTER: How is this going to

affect perhaps your parole. Is this...

HOFFA: It has nothing to do with my parole because I was very careful to get clearance with the parole department prior to my becoming involved in going to Hanoi.

I have in my possession a written approval for up to a thirty day visit in Hanoi.

REPORTER: It seems rather unusual that this effort on your part would go so far as to get US parole board approval, that the State Department would issue a passport, and then suddenly it would take the Secretary of State himself, William ROGERS, to turn around at the last moment, short-stop the entire effort.

HOFFA: Can't understand it.

Opinion On NATO Troop Exercises

JOHN K. JESSUP: A little noticed breakthrough in military technology is called the people sniffer.

A kind of censor that directs artillery fire toward objects giving off a scent of human perspiration.

It has been used in VN but now faces more exacting tests in large scale NATO troop exercises.

Under European conditions, the people sniffer must detect not anything that smells, but specifically recognizable Russians, Germans, British and so on.

Patrick RYAN a British writer has given us a clear view of what the people sniffer is now up against.

The presence of French troops, writes RYAN, could be detected by picking up their native aroma compounded of (word unintelligible) garlic and the recurrent (word unintelligible) of injured national pride.

The Russians must be located from that communal (word unintelligible) composed of boiling beet roots, day old vodka and a general atmosphere of suspicion tinged with anxious perspiration about the yellow peril.

West German troops would be marked by the aroma of sauerkraut, cigars and newly minted money.

The fact that the almighty nose had picked up British forces

PART 11

would be confirmed by the amalgam of hot tea, lukewarm beer, steamed up shop steward, and the damp moth ball tang of impoverished gentility.

And the American armies has always had to come over to clear up our wars, would be immediately identifiable from the combined fragrance of coke-a-cola, hamburgers, bourbon and the eternal muck (?) sweat of longing to be universally loved.

A soldiers best friend would no longer be his rifle but his deodorant.

Thus Patrick RYAN: Science marches on, having united the world it now aims to separate us by our national stinks.

Who ever invented the people sniffer, I have no doubt their research will meet these exacting new demands upon their product.

Jane FONDA was interviewed on the Dick CAVETT Show on 9/7/72. Complete transcript is available.

Miles COPELAND (former CIA consultant) was interviewed on the Today Show on 9/7/72. Complete transcript is available.

Father John MCLAUGHLIN, Deputy Special Assistant to the President and syndicated columnist Joseph KRAFT, were interviewed on the Martin AGRONSKY: Evening Edition on 9/6/72. Complete transcript is available.
